

Spending taxpayer funds on politically motivated lobbying activities isn't just wasteful, it's wrong.

Taxpayers, who come from all walks of life and all ends of the political spectrum, should not be forced to finance lobbying activities on behalf of causes they might oppose, or know nothing about.

Especially in this age of fiscal austerity, no one should ever use Federal money to lobby the Federal Government. This bill goes after the most blatant examples—where Federal agencies are producing and spreading propaganda—and encouraging others to lobby on their behalf.

The abuses addressed by this bill are already illegal, but the existing law, which employs criminal sanctions, has never been enforced. It has been subject to many different interpretations by the Justice Department, but never one that included enforcement.

This bill includes civil sanctions, providing for easier enforcement, and helps clear up any ambiguities.

Under this bill, the President, the Vice President, and Senate-confirmed Federal officials are allowed to speak out on the administration's position—but they cannot place pressure on non-governmental organizations.

Executive branch officials are allowed to communicate with Congress directly about upcoming bills.

But the bill does not allow the administration to continue what has become in essence a grassroots lobbying operation at taxpayer expense.

The bill will bring a halt to the outrageous practice of Government agencies providing talking points, briefing books, pamphlets, and other activities undertaken to foster the support or opposition to pending legislation.

When the Founding Fathers designed our Government, they adhered strictly to the doctrine of separation of powers. This bill is an attempt to return our Government to their ideal.

The executive branch should concern itself with implementing the laws passed by Congress, not with trying to influence the outcome of legislation for their own—or others' special interests.

The legislative process is the purview of the legislative branch. We welcome the administration's input, but not their lobbying activities. This bill will protect the taxpayers by ending these practices.●

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 942

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. LIEBERMAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 942, a bill to promote increased understanding of Federal regulations and increased voluntary compliance with such regulations by small entities, to provide for the designation of regional ombudsmen and oversight boards to monitor the enforcement practices of certain Federal agencies with respect to small business con-

cerns, to provide relief from excessive and arbitrary regulatory enforcement actions against small entities, and for other purposes.

S. 1027

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. GREGG] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1027, a bill to eliminate the quota and price support programs for peanuts, and for other purposes.

S. 1039

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1039, a bill to require Congress to specify the source of authority under the United States Constitution for the enactment of laws, and for other purposes.

S. 1166

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS], the Senator from Idaho [Mr. KEMPTHORNE], and the Senator from Indiana [Mr. COATS] were added as cosponsors of S. 1166, a bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, to improve the registration of pesticides, to provide minor use crop protection, to improve pesticide tolerances to safeguard infants and children, and for other purposes.

S. 1355

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1355, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to end deferral for United States shareholders on income of controlled foreign corporations attributable to property imported into the United States.

S. 1563

At the request of Mr. SIMPSON, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. SANTORUM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1563, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise and improve eligibility for medical care and services under that title, and for other purposes.

S. 1592

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. BRADLEY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1592, a bill to strike the prohibition on the transmission of abortion-related matters, and for other purposes.

S. 1596

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. PRESSLER] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1596, a bill to direct a property conveyance in the State of California.

S. 1597

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1597, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to discourage American businesses from moving jobs overseas and to encourage the creation of

new jobs in the United States, and for other purposes.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 42

At the request of Mrs. KASSEBAUM, the name of the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 42, a concurrent resolution concerning the emancipation of the Iranian Baha'i community.

SENATE RESOLUTION 85

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. LAUTENBERG] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 85, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate that obstetrician-gynecologists should be included in Federal laws relating to the provision of health care.

SENATE RESOLUTION 152

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 152, a resolution to amend the Standing Rules of the Senate to require a clause in each bill and resolution to specify the constitutional authority of the Congress for enactment, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 217

At the request of Mrs. KASSEBAUM, the names of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. HOLLINGS] and the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 217, a resolution to designate the first Friday in May 1996, as "American Foreign Service Day" in recognition of the men and women who have served or are presently serving in the American Foreign Service, and to honor those in the American Foreign Service who have given their lives in the line of duty.

AMENDMENT NO. 3492

At the request of Mr. GRAMS, the name of the Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL] was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 3492 proposed to H.R. 3019, a bill making appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to make a further downpayment toward a balanced budget, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 231—EXTENDING SYMPATHIES TO THE PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND

Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself and Mr. BRADLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 231

Whereas all Americans were horrified by the news this morning that 16 kindergarten children and their teacher were shot and killed yesterday in Dunblane, Scotland, by an individual who invaded their school;

Whereas another 12 children and 3 adults were apparently wounded in the same terrible assault;

Whereas this was an unspeakable tragedy of huge dimensions causing tremendous feelings of horror and anger and sadness affecting all people around the world; and

Whereas the people of the United States wish to extend their sympathy to the people of Scotland in their hours of hurt and pain and grief;